

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 195483

10

ORIGIN NEA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66607

DRAFTED BY: NEA/INS:RDLORTON

APPROVED BY: NEA/INS:BWBROWN

NEA/PAB:AEGRIFIN

----- 121716

R 192026Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 195483

FOL REPEAT OF STATE 195483 TO DACCA INFO ISLAMABAD NEW DELHI CALCUTTA
CAIRO ATHENS TEHRAN KABUL LONDON JIDDA CINCPAC KAULA LUMPUR
AUG 18

QTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 195483

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE

ATHENS FOR CODEL EAGLETON

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN FOR USE AT NOON BRIEFING 18 AUGUST:

2. (TO VOLUNTEER): OVER THE WEEKEND WE HAD SEVERAL QUES-
TIONS ABOUT THE DEATH OF FORMER PRESIDENT SHEIKH MUJIBUR
RAHMAN, OF BANGLADESH. AT THAT TIME WE HAD RECEIVED ONLY
UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF HIS DEATH. NOW THAT THOSE REPORTS
HAVE BEEN VERIFIED, I WOULD LIKE TO STATE THAT THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT REGRETS THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT MUJIBUR
RAHMAN AND OF MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY. UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP,
BANGLADESH HAD ESTABLISHED CLOSE, COOPERATIVE RELATIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 195483

WITH THE USG, AND HIS DEATH IS LAMENTED BY HIS MANY FRIENDS
IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FOR US ON UNITED STATES RELA-

TIONS WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH?

A: OVER THE WEEKEND WE RECEIVED A CIRCULAR NOTE FROM THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH INFORMING US OF BANGLADESH'S INTENTION TO ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING CONDUCT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN NATIONS. OUR AMBASSADOR IN DACCA WILL

ACKNOWLEDGE THIS EXPRESSION OF INTENTION. AS I MENTIONED ON FRIDAY, WE EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO CONDUCT NORMAL BUSINESS WITH THE BDG.

4. Q: ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS RECOGNIZED THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH?

A: THE DIPLOMATIC NOTE WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE BDG DOES NOT MENTION RECOGNITION. THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION HAS THEREFORE NOT SPECIFICALLY ARISEN. WE ARE RESPONDING TO THE NOTE, HOWEVER. IN GENERAL, IN RECENT YEARS THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION HAS BEEN DEEMPHASIZED.

5. Q: DOES THE NOTE WE ARE SENDING CONSTITUTE AN ACT OF RECOGNITION?

A: NEITHER THE NOTE NOR OUR RESPONSE MAKES REFERENCE TO RECOGNITION. HOWEVER, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONDUCT NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT. OUR RESPONSE IN EFFECT MEANS THAT WE INTEND TO CONTINUE CONDUCTING NORMAL RELATIONS.

6. Q: WHAT ABOUT REPORTS OF FIGHTING AND DISTURBANCES IN BANGLADESH?

A: AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THE SITUATION IS QUIET THERE. THE CURFEW WAS LIFTED IN DACCA SUNDAY TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO SHOP, AND NORMAL LIFE IS RESUMING. WE DON'T YET KNOW WHEN INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND COMMUNICATIONS LINKS WILL BE RESUMED, BUT WE EXPECT THAT THEY WILL BE SHORTLY. OUR REPORTS INDICATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 195483

CATE THAT ALL AMERICANS ARE WELL.

7. Q: WOULD YOU COMMENT ON INDIA'S IMPLIED WARNING TO BANGLADESH?

A: I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THAT MATTER. BUT THIS MIGHT BE THE TIME FOR ME TO MENTION TO YOU ONCE AGAIN OUR GENERAL POLICY TOWARD SOUTH ASIA. WE SEEK GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL THE NATIONS OF SOUTH ASIA, AND WE LOOK FOR NO SPECIAL ADVANTAGE OR POSITION IN ANY OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE AREA. THE U.S. HOPES TO SEE PROGRESS IN SOUTH ASIA TOWARDS PEACE AND STABILITY ON THE BASIS OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE

VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION.

8. DECON ON RECEIPT. SISCO UNQTE KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, POLITICAL LEADERS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE195483
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/INS:RDLORTON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750287-0392
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197508101/baaaashp.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, BG, (RAHMAN, MUJIBUR)
To: KATHMANDU
COLOMBO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006